

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/545,608

Examiner

Quang N. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

HOHMANN ET AL.

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Terminal Disclaimer and Remarks filed on 09/28/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 April 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Statement of Reasons for Allowance

1. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment maybe filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Claims 1-20 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In interpreting the claims, in light of the specification and the applicant's arguments filed on 09/28/2004, the Examiner finds the claimed invention to be patentably distinct from the prior art of record.

Thomas (US 6,401,118) teaches an online monitoring system for receiving search criteria, search setup, and management inputs from users to allow intellectual property owners quickly and efficiently search and find infringements and disparagements contained on Web, FTP, and FSP sites as well as chat rooms and Usenet newsgroups within the Internet (Thomas, C2: L52-60).

Sullivan (US 5,953,528) teaches a system and method for registering and maintaining information on the trust, confidence, or validity of a knowledge object, wherein knowledge object registration is performed in a client/server environment, in which clients store knowledge objects for registration by the server (Sullivan, C1:L55 – C2:L25).

D’Anjou et al. (US 6,343,297) teaches a method and system to provide a document management system suitable for incorporation with a software management and control library by encapsulating a plurality document databases with a template so as to provide a document database which interacts with the software management and control library, wherein the template is utilized to define a requirements document database, define a design and development document database and define a test document database (D’anjou, C3: L12-38).

The prior art of record teaches the claimed invention substantially, but it fails to teach or suggest individually or in combination that a system and method for enforcing the standardization of data exchange for intellectual asset data objects, comprising: a database having stored therein at least one intellectual asset protocol, wherein ***said at least one intellectual asset protocol defines at least one data exchange set of rules and formats for a type of intellectual asset data object***; and at least one engine, wherein ***said at least one engine determines whether an intellectual asset data object of said type conforms to said intellectual asset protocol*** as set forth in independent claims 1, 10 and 18. Claims 1-20 are allowed because of the combination of other limitations and the limitation listed above.

4. Moreover, the Examiner finds the Applicant's Terminal Disclaimer and Remarks filed on 09/28/2004 proper and persuasive.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3886.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER